1993

Summer

NCNA *Journal*

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JOURNAL

SUMMER 1993

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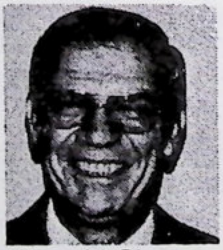

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NCNA JOURNAL
Volume 18 Number 3 Summer 1993

HELP the

North Carolina Numismatic Association

with its
SECOND ANNUAL CONVENTION AUCTION

We need your donation of Numismatic Material to the North Carolina Numismatic Association for the second annual auction to be held at the NCNA Convention in High Point on Saturday, November 6, 1993 the following rules applying.

Auction items will be donated and will be solicited from throughout the North Carolina numismatic community.

Items will be collected and cataloged by John Wills, Box 40632, Fayetteville NC 28309, (919) 484-0277.

Contributors donating material before September 1 will be recognized in the Auction Catalogue that will be published and distributed in the Convention issue of the NCNA Journal.

Due to the tax status of NCNA donations are not deductible on Federal Income Tax.

Lots will have an estimated value of $10 or more.

The auction will be an absolute auction to be held on site.

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

Robert Hoadley - Chairman
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1993 COIN CLUB DIRECTORY

Here are the best available listings of local clubs, their addresses, meeting places and officers. Make numismatics more interesting by sharing your hobby with your neighbors. Please notify the editor of any omissions or corrections.

BEAUFORT CO, 720 E. MAIN ST., WASHINGTON NC 27889. Meets 8 PM on last Friday at Register's Coin Shop, Washington NC
1993 Officers not available

CAPE FEAR , BOX 40632, FAYETTEVILLE NC 28309. Meets 8 PM ON 2ND Tuesday at First Citizen's Bank, Green St, Fayetteville

PRESIDENT	John Wills	SECRETARY	Harold Grace
VICE PRES	Mickey Smith	TREASURER	Harold Grace

CHARLOTTE , BOX 33292, CHARLOTTE NC 28233. Meets 7:30 PM on 4th Thursday at Piedmont Natural Gas, 1918 Rexford Rd, Charlotte

PRESIDENT	Ralph Janelli	SECRETARY	Lee Roe
VICE PRES	Tom Marshal	TREAS	Trent Wilson

CUMBERLAND COUNTY, BOX 1031, FAYETTEVILLE NC 28302. Meets 7:30 PM on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at Community Room, Sears Roebuck, Cross Creek Mall

PRESIDENT	Charles Kimber	SEC	Harold Grace
VICE PRES	John Wills	TREAS	Rita Kimber

EAGLE , BOX 424, LEXINGTON NC 27292. Meets 7:30 PM on 3rd Saturday at Robbins Recreation Center, Hargrave St, Lexington

PRESIDENT	Steve Comer	SEC	Lionel Wall
VICE PRES	Bill Woodruff	TREAS	Forrest Micharel

GREENSBORO, BOX 20623, GREENSBORO NC 27420. Meets 7:15 PM on 1st Tues at Lewis Rec. Center, Pisgah Church Rd,

PRESIDENT	Al Stewart	SECRETARY	Donald Weiler
VICE PRES	Clark White	TREASURER	J. W. B. Bason

HAYWOOD, RT. 4, BOX 174, , CANTON NC 28716. Meets 7:30 PM on 2nd Thursday at Canton Branch Public Library, 11 Penn. Ave.

PRESIDENT	James T. Tanner, Jr.	SEC	H. C. Sutton
VICE PRES	Dr. E. E. Moore	TREAS	H. C. Sutton

HENDERSONVILLE, BOX 1385, FLETCHER NC 28732. Meets 7PM on 1st Tuesday at Hendersonville Public Library

PRESIDENT	Joe Smolski	SECRETARY	James Jones
VICE PRES	Art Ericson	TREASURER	James Jones

JACKSONVILLE, BOX 1313, JACKSONVILLE NC 28540. Meets 7:30 PM on 2nd Tuesday at 1st Christian Church, Gum Branch Rd

PRESIDENT	Rick Campbell	SEC	James Norman
VICE PRES	Jeff Lister	TREAS	Charles Hlas

KANNAPOLIS, BOX 661, KANNAPOLIS NC 28062. Meets 7:30 PM on 2nd Tuesday at Scout Hut, Trinity Methodist Ch
1993 Officers not available

LOWER CAPE FEAR, BOX 4232, WILMINGTON NC 28406. Meets 7:30 PM on 2nd Wed at Southern Bell, Shipyard Blvd

PRESIDENT	David Porter	SECRETARY	Gar Travis
VICE PRES	Bob Neale	TREASURER	Sandra Martines

NICKEL & DIME, 2124 Sharon Dr, Statesville NC 28677. Meets 7:30 PM on 3rd Tuesday at Troutman Fire Dept, Troutman NC 1993 officers not available

RALEIGH , BOX 18801, RALEIGH NC 27619. Meets 7:30 PM on 2nd Thursday at Kiwanis Center, Noble Rd

PRESIDENT	Robert Schreiner	SEC	Sam Kirby
VICE PRES	Alex Armstrong	TREAS	Wayne Brooke

ROWAN COUNTY, Rt. 5, Box 711C, Salisbury NC 28144. Meets 7:30 PM on 1st Thursday at Salisbury Recreation Center, Salisbury

PRESIDENT	Steve Schenk	SECRETARY	Sheila Everhart
VICE PRES	Harry Clontz	TREASURER	Sheila Everhart

WINSTON-SALEM, 1039 Betty Dr, WINSTON-SALEM NC 27107. Meets 7:30 PM on 2nd Tuesday at Sprague Rec Center, Sprague St
PRESIDENT Dale Berube
SECS Betty Little, Teresa Edwards
VICE PRES James Edwards TREAS James Little

APOLOGIES

Your editor wishes to apologize for a blunder in the Spring issue of the Journal. In the call for nominations, it was stated that Forrest Michael was 1st Vice President. Actually Paul Greene is 1st Vice President and Forrest is a Director.

There is still time to send your nominations for all offices to Box 20653, Greensboro NC 27420-0653

AMERICA'S COPPER COINAGE

by John Griffee

Coppers! Coppers! Coppers! I'm not yelling for the police, but I just want to emphasize that the copper coin has played a pivotal role in not only our early national history but was a mainstay of commerce of early civilization in Greek and Roman times.

Copper has always been the coin of commerce, or better still, the king of commerce. Everyone liked this lowly denomination. It was the hard money for the poor, the working class, the farmers and the merchants to buy goods and services.

And, although it doesn't have much purchasing power today, it still occupies a prominent place in our affections.

Many nonnumismatists collect one cent pieces by putting them in piggy banks, jars and boxes and then given them to their children or grandchildren or just roll them up and turn them in to banks. Young numismatists start their collecting careers with Lincoln and Indian Head cents and graduate to large cents and colonials.

The first Federal Mint opened for business in 1793 and from that day to the present, 200 years, some type of copper coinage has been struck in every year except one. No 1815-dated cents exist, but mint records show that the 1816-dated cent production started late in 1815.

There were, of course, many circulating copper issues struck before 1793. These include state coinages from an official state mint as in Massachusetts and state contracts with private mints as in New Jersey and Connecticut. There were tokens and pattern issues, mostly from England. And, there were many out-and-out counterfeit issues circulated right alongside the legitimate coins.

Even though, in most cases, the counterfeit coins were of substandard weight or quality, it didn't seem to matter to the public as there was such a great shortage of small change in Colonial America that a counterfeit copper was better than no coin at all.

Let's examine the rich tradition of early American copper coinage by discussing several of the well-known issues. It is impossible, due to space constraints, to give you more than a taste of the complexity of this coinage era. Consider this as an introduction to an intricate, tragic, sometimes humorous, but always fascinating, era of copper coinage AND as an invitation to learn more about it and join me in the growing ranks of copper collectors.

This is a Mark Newby St. Patrick farthing, Breen #208 (nothing below the king), the most common variety with probably over 70 different die varieties according to Walter Breen.

Newby was a tallow chandler in London and a Quaker. Because of his religious beliefs he was forced to move to Dublin, Ireland, but it

didn't help. He decided to try the new world, America. This was the year 1681.

Historians have not found concrete evidence, but they believe the St. Patrick farthings and halfpence coins were struck sometime between 1645 and 1670 in London. These coins had been demonetized by 1681 and Newby bought up large quantities, at a great discount, packed them in wooden kegs marked, "HARDWARE" and shipped them along with his other goods to America.

Newby settled on a 350 acre site he purchased from William Penn in Newton, N. J. across the river from Philadelphia. He established the first bank in New Jersey, and he had a supply of ready-made hard money to circulate.

The New Jersey legislature passed an act on May 8, 1682, approving the use of the St. Patrick coins by the bank but required Newby to put up his property as a bond to guarantee he would take back these coins for any "pay equivalent." By this act these St. Patrick coins became legal tender in New Jersey.

Most St. Patrick coins are well worn and rightly so since they circulated for over 100 years before the New Jersey state coins were minted. And, probably stayed in circulation to some degree for an additional 70 years until 1857 when non-US Mint coins could not be used for legal tender.

It is believed that there are more than 100 farthing die varieties.

All kinds of controversy surrounds this coin -- what it is called and where was it manufactured?

Continued next page

For years this issue has been called Nova Constellatio and currently is listed as such in Stack's catalogs. Bowers and Morena, however, through research by Mike Hodder, as concluded that the proper designation should be Constellatio Nova and has so listed it as early as their Norweb II sale catalog of March 1988.

How do you read a coin? You start at the top and go with the flow of the letters -- to the right or clockwise. Your keypoint here is the eye. The eye has an eyelid and human eyelids are above the eye.

Hodder concludes the diemaker intended for the word "Constellatio" to be read first and, in addition, proper Latin usage requires the adjective to follow the noun it modifies.

The New Constellation and 13 stars refers to our new infant country, the United States, with a prominent "U.S." on the reverse.

Most sources believe these coins were struck by the Birmingham Mint in England in 1785 from dies made by George Wyon. They were imported for American circulation as a business venture by Gouverneur Morris, former Assistant Financier of the Confederation. They apparently were successful and the coins did circulate.

Others believe the designs are too crude to be of British origin and could have been made, for example, at Machin's Mills near Newburgh, New York. There is still research to be done.

OUR COVER PHOTO

This issue's cover is graced with pictures of the Italian 500 lire coin of 1991 honoring the 2100th anniversary of the Mivian Bridge over the Tiber near Rome. The truly striking design shows the bridge on both obverse and reverse, one in a straitforward oblique view and on the other as a sort of fanciful coronet on a female head whose tresses become the flowing river.

The photo is courtesy of Krause Publications who awarded the coin their Coin of the Year (COTY) award for 1991. The coin is 835 fine silver and was minted at Rome.

In the battle of the Milvian Bridge on October28, 312 AD, Constantine (later the Great) defeated Maxentius to take power in the West preparatory to becoming sole ruler of the entire Roman Empire, both East and West. Just before the battle Constantine is said to have seen a flaming cross with the banner "In this sign conquer." and it influenced his conversion to Christianity.

YOUTH PARTICIPATION

by Dale Berube

We hear a lot about this especially in relation to the diminishing interest in coin clubs and coin shows. So, I visited a local cub scout meeting to give a talk on coin collecting and to ask some questions. What follows are my questions along with their responses.

First, I asked if any of them collected coins. Only three boys said they collected. Next, I asked how many of their parents collected some type of coins. I followed this up by asking what type of coins their parents had and the children became very animated, talking about their parents, friends and neighbors all having old pennies, quarters, buffalo nickels, silver dollars, Kennedy halves and of course, baseball cards.

Once their interest was peaked, I asked how many had achieved their cub scout collecting badge. The response was only two and so I explained that starting a coin collection was a great way to get the badge. I then had my seven year old son show them his Jefferson nickel collection housed in a Whitman Classic album, and he explained how the pages protect the coin and how he had some holes to fill because he was not just accumulating coins, but rather looking for dates and mintmarks. One child asked about mintmarks, and I explained about the most common P, D, and S mints being where coins were made. I then showed them a collection of Kennedy halves, Franklin halves, and Peace Dollars. We also passed around a proof set so they could see how different they were from everyday coins. I also tried to impart a little history by telling them of the "racketeer" V nickel and about Washington's silverware being melted down to be used in our country's first coins. My final question was whether or not they knew we had a coin club here in Winston-Salem. Most all said no. With that response, I handed each of them a business card with our club information on the front, and a cute saying on the back.

I also explained and showed Coin World, Coins and Coinage literature to them and their leader in case they wanted to learn more. The last things I left with them was a flyer for our upcoming free coin show, a bibliography of coin books available for checking out at our local library, an NCNA application and some other literature. I also personally gave each child a buffalo nickel and a wheat penny in 2x2 flips so this may start them on their way to what has become an enjoyable hobby for me.

In conclusion, it is almost as important to enlist the child's parents in coin collecting as it is the child. The only young collectors we have is because the parents take an interest and work to keep the child interested. They were very excited for the moment, but quickly moved on to something else, as is normal in a child's behavior. If we could somehow get through to more parents, then we have a better chance for growth. I also found that the coins that interest children are something they can relate to. Not an artistic looking bust half, but rather a large, shiny Kennedy half which can go in their pocket to show friends and with the president that they are learning about in school, or a buffalo nickel which has an Indian on the front.

Finally, you may want to do what I do to get and keep their interest, which is to give a Susan B. Anthony dollar for an allowance, rather than a paper bill, or put a Kennedy half under a pillow when the tooth fairy comes, or ask the bank for two rolls of nickels so your child can look for a needed date. I realize that in our busy world, this can take a little time and some extra effort, but after all, isn't it worth it?

COIN SHOW CALENDAR

LOCAL CHAIRMEN PLEASE NOTIFY THE EDITOR, Box 5625, Raleigh, NC 27650 of your plans as soon as possible to avoid conflicts. Information transmitted in writing is safer, but between issues inquiries and information can be recieved during evening hours at 919-832-4128. or during business hours at 919-828-9450.

AUG

20-22 Middle Atlantic Numismatic Assn, Frederick MD, Frank Katen, Box 4047, Silver Spring MD 20904

20-22 Provost Guard Coin Club, Kerbela Shrine Temple, Mimosa Ave, Knoxville TN, Dennis E. Pressley, 3922 Copper Ridge Rd., Knoxville TN 37931

21-22 Midlands Coin Club, Seven Oaks Rec Ctr, Irmo SC, Ken Tracy, 7438 Coachmaker Rd, Columbia SC 29209

27-29 Carolina Coin & Stamp Conv, Mission Valley Inn, Raleigh NC, Ted Hendrick, Box 12052, Raleigh NC 27605

28-29 Morristown Coin Show, Textile Worker's Union Hall, Morristown TN, Bill Henderson, 346 Fuller Est Cir, Morristown TN 37813

SEP

3-5 Peach State, Waverly Hotel, Atlanta GA, Mike Griffith, Box 76482, Atlanta GA 30358

9-12 Virginia Numismatic Assn, Westpark Hotel, McLean VA, Keith Littlefield, 3902 Rose Lane, Annandale VA 22003

17-19 Carolina Coin & Stamp Conv, Merchandise Mart, Charlotte NC, Ted Hendrick, Box 12052, Raleigh NC 27605

24-26 Blue Ridge Numismatic Assn, Days Inn, Ext 1, I-75, Chattanooga TN, Ruth Armstrong, Box 80052, Chattanooga TN 37411

25 Camden Coin Club, Teen Canteen, Hwy 1, Camden SC, Loran Ross, 2504 Haile St. Ext.

25-26 Charlotte Stamp Expo, Days Inn, Woodlawn, Charlotte NC, Richard Canupp, Box 240155, Charlotte NC 25224

25-26 Jacksonville Coin Club, Onslow Inn, Jacksonville NC, Charles Hlas, 227 Edgewood Ln, Rt. 5, Jacksonville NC

25-26 Rowan County Coin Club, Civic Center, Salisbury NC, Don Warren, 214 Cantiberry Dr, Salisbury NC 28146

OCT

22-24 Suburban Washington, Baltimore MD, Gordon Berg, Box 1876, Rockville MD 20850

29-31 South Carolina Numismatic Assn, Hyatt Regency, Greenville SC, Don McAlister, 2207 West Parker Rd, Greenville SC 29611, 803-246-2685

30-31 Northern Va Coin Club, Community Center, Vienna VA, Earl Blaisdell, 703-241-0130

NOV

5-7 North Carolina Numismatic Assn, Market Place, High Point NC, Ted Hendrick, Box 12052, Raleigh NC 27605

13-14 Cape Fear Coin Club, Bordeaux Inn, Fayetteville NC, John Wills, Box 40632, Fayetteville NC 283098

19-21 Carolina Coin & Stamp Conventions, Merchandise Mart, Charlotte NC, Ted Hendrick, Box 12052, Raleigh NC 27605

DEC

11-12 Charlotte Stamp Expo, Days Inn, Woodlawn, Charlotte NC, Richard Canupp, Box 240155, Charlotte NC 25224

JAN

6-9 Florida United Numismatists, Orange Co. Convention Center, Orlando FL, Ginger Bryan, Box 349, Gainesville FL 32602

14-16 Carolina Coin & Stamp Conventions, Holshouser Bldg, State Fairgrounds, Raleigh NC, Ted Hendrick, Box 12052, Raleigh NC 27605

22-23 Northern Va Coin Club, Community Center, Vienna VA

FEB

18-20 Charlotte Coin Club, Merchandise Mart, Charlottee NC, Will Jordan, 704-364-2850

25-27 Peach State Coin Show, Galleria Expo Center at the Waverly, Atlanta GA, Larry Jackson, Box 76482, Atlanta GA 30358

MAR

3-5 American Numismatic Association, New Oreleans LA, ,

12-13 Shenandoah Valley Coin Club, Outlet Village, Waynesboro VA, Clarence Armstrong, 610 "C" St., Staunton VA 24401

18-20 Tennessee State Numismatic Soc., Days Inn, East Ridge, TN, Ruth Armstrong, Box 80052, Chattanooga TN 37414

25-27 Model City Coin Club, Civic Auditorium, Kingsport TN, E. S. Stanley, 3737 Hemolock Pk. Dr., Kingsport TN37664

25-27 Suburban Washington, Baltimore MD, Gordon Berg

APR

8-10 DC Metro Show, Holiday Inn Express, Springfield VA, Rob Lehmann, Box 6283, Springfiled VA 22150

15-17 Lower Cape Fear Coin Club, Elks Lodge, Oleander Dr, Wilmington NC, O. T. Thompson, Box 4243, Wilmington NC 28406

23-24 Northern Va Coin Club, Community Center, Vienna VA, Earl Blaisdell

MAY

27-29 Georgia Numismatic Association, Georgia International Trade Center, Atlanta GA, Jack Hancock, Box 550309, Atlanta GA 30355

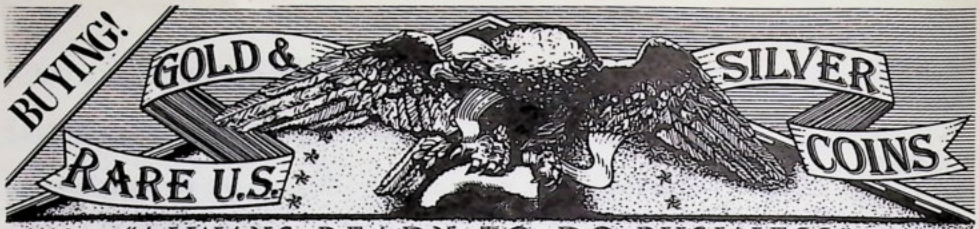
JUN

3-5 Parker Coin Club, Holiday Inn, Roper Mtn Rd., Greenville SC, Don McAlister, 2207 W. Parker Rd., Greenville SC 29611

10-12 Carolina Coin & Stamp Conventions, Merchandise Mart, Charlotte NC, Ted Hendrick, Box 12052, Raleigh NC 27605

17-19 Maryland State Numismatic Assn, Convention Center, Baltimore MD, Paul Singleton, Box 894, Annandale VA 22003

17-19 Memphis Paper Money Show, Cook Convention Center, Memphis TN, Mike Crabb, Box 17871, Memphis TN 38187



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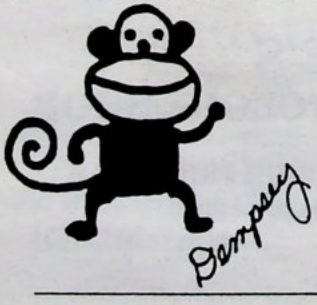

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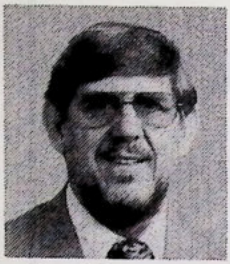

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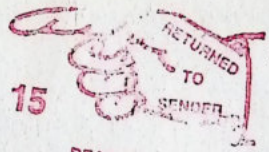

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